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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 08/925,703 | 09/09/1997 | DUANE LE ALLEN | MICL:024(97- | 5929 |

7590 01/02/2002

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EXAMINER

OPIE, GEORGE L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2151

DATE MAILED: 01/02/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

H.G

Office Action Summary

Application No.

08/925,703

Examiner

George L. Opie

Applicant(s)

Duane Le Allen

Art Unit

2151

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 October 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 34-51 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ☐ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ☐ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 34-51 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ☐ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ☐ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ☐ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ☐ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been:
1. ☐ received.
 2. ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code / Serial Number) ☐.
 3. ☐ received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. & 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 14) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 17) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) ☐.
- 15) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 18) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 16) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ☐. 19) ☐ Other: ☐.

Art Unit: 2151

DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action vacates the Final rejection.

1. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 34-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the APA in view of "Microsoft releases Windows 95 service-pack" M2 Communications Presswire, 14 February 1996.

As to claim 34, the APA p4 l8-17) teaches a method comprising: providing an operating system package (OS) that includes a first configuration file (includes a configuration file) the first configuration file including information used by the operating system package to install first drivers (drivers) for a first set of devices (devices ... associated with the computer) on a computer. The APA does not explicitly disclose the additional limitations detailed below. Microsoft Win95 ServicePack Release teaches providing a second configuration file external to the operating system package (ServicePack) the second configuration file including information to direct the installation of a second driver for a second device (new components, tools, and third-party device drivers) installing the second driver on the computer based on the information in the second configuration file (install the latest drivers easily for hardware devices) and installing the operating system package on the computer based on the information in the second configuration file (fixes ... install easily on an existing Win95 based system).

It would have been obvious to combine Microsoft Win95 ServicePack teachings with the APA because the ServicePack automates upgrading, OS fixes, and installation of additional drivers for new hardware.

As to claim 35, the APA (background p3 l14 – p4 l2) teaches executing a setup program (software) of the operating system package (OS) to install the second driver (installs whatever drivers the device needs). It would have been obvious to combine the installation execution teachings with the APA as modified

Art Unit: 2151

because the setup program that executes the appropriate OS configuration functions assist the user to complete the installation by simply running the setup program so that the device is fully operational.

As to claim 36, "Official Notice" is taken that the addition of a second device that is not included in the first set of devices for driver installation is well known in the art (MPEP2144.03). It would have been obvious to combine new device installation with the system of the APA as modified because a user may need to add a component on to the machine but the drivers for that new component are not present on the machine, so the second file provides a mechanism for adding new drivers to the system.

As to claim 37, "Official Notice" is taken that installing applications after the second driver and the operating system are installed is well known in the art. It would have been obvious to have the application loading follow the installation of the OS and drivers integrate with the APA as modified because the installation of application programs are dependent on the configuration of the system, and customary setup routines enable efficient installation of a user's software package, including all of the programs that constitute the system applications.

As to claim 38, "Official Notice" is taken that determining one procedure from a plurality of options is well known in the art. (MPEP 2144.03). In the interest of flexibility and efficiency, it would be important to incorporate a mechanism for choosing an installation procedure from a variety of possibilities, and it would have been obvious to combine this option determination principle with the APA as modified, thereby furnishing the installation facility with a feature for determining one procedure for installation from a number of alternatives in order that the setup procedure suits the user's needs.

As to claims 39-40, "Official Notice" is taken that the dynamic identification of devices is automated or user-driven is well known in the art (MPEP2144.03). It would have been obvious to combine the automated/user-driven system of dynamic identification of devices with the APA as modified because the dynamic identification would help set-up the peripheral component configuration for the user with the automated/direct-driven teaching that provides enhanced installation capabilities, i.e. a user-friendly utility that powerfully manages the low-level details requisite in installation of new hardware and system upgrades.

As to claim 41, "Official Notice" is taken that an ISA, PCI, SCSI, and an IDE device are component standards which are well known in the art. (MPEP 2144.03). It would have been obvious to combine components from the recited respective device standards with the APA/ServicePack system because

Art Unit: 2151

the adaptations for the variety of protocols enable automated management, maintenance, and installation for machines equipped with any of the recited device standard components.

As to claim 42, "Official Notice" is taken that a display device, a sound device, a modem, and a controller are components that need respective drivers for the system to function properly is well known in the art (MPEP 2144.03). It would have been obvious to combine the peripheral devices with the APA/ServicePack system because the utilization of these common computing interfaces facilitates a user's ability to enjoy the maximum extent of the machines communication services.

As to claim 43, "Official Notice" is taken that the patching of errors in a first configuration file with information in a second configuration file is well known in the art (MPEP 2144.03). It would have been obvious to employ the file patching concept in the APA as modified because the correcting of errors via patches from one file to a second file facilitates solution implementation/installation, thereby enabling a user to easily maintain the OS package, devices and machine in a properly performing status.

As to claims 44-50, note the rejections of claims 34, 37-39, and 41-43 respectively. Claims 44-50 are the same as claims 34, 37-39, and 41-43, except claims 44-50 are computer program product claims and claims 34, 37-39, and 41-43 are method claims.

As to claim 51, the APA teaches that the device drivers are typically installed during the OS installation, background p4 ln 15-17. Accordingly, the typical scenario would have setup the second device's driver contemporaneously with the OS installation. It would have been obvious to combine this packaging setup with the APA/ServicePack system because the installation of the driver for the second (or any other) device during the OS setup would save time and eliminate the need for the user to perform the software configuration for the device.

3. Response to Applicant's Arguments:

Applicant's arguments, filed 10 October 2001, have been considered but are deemed to be moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

4. Request for copy of Applicant's response on floppy disk:

Please help expedite the prosecution of this application by including, along with your amendment response in paper form, an electronic file copy in WordPerfect, Microsoft Word, or in ASCII text format on a 3½ inch IBM format floppy disk. Please include all pending claims along with your responsive remarks. Only the

Art Unit: 2151

paper copy will be entered -- your floppy disk file will be considered a duplicate copy. Signatures are not required on the disk copy. The floppy disk copy is not mandatory; however, it will help expedite the processing of your application. Your cooperation is appreciated.


5. Contact Information:

PTO Policy for Facsimile Submissions:

- ☐ AFTER-FINAL faxes must be signed and sent to (703) 746-7238.
- ☐ OFFICIAL faxes must be signed and sent to (703) 746-7239.
- ☐ NON OFFICIAL faxes should be sent to (703) 746-7240.

All OFFICIAL faxes will be handled and entered by the docketing personnel. The date of entry will correspond to the actual FAX reception date unless that date is a Saturday, Sunday, or a Federal Holiday within the District of Columbia, in which case the official date of receipt will be the next business day. The application file will be promptly forwarded to the Examiner unless the application file must be sent to another area of the Office, e.g., Finance Division for fee charging, etc.

- ☐ All responses sent by U.S. Mail should be mailed to:
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231
- ☐ Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park Two, 2021 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist). All hand-delivered responses will be handled and entered by the docketing personnel. Please do not hand deliver responses directly to the Examiner.
- ☐ Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist at **(703) 305-9600**.
- ☐ Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to George Opie at (703) 308-9120 or via e-mail at George.Opie@uspto.gov. Internet e-mail should not be used where sensitive data will be exchanged or where there exists a possibility that sensitive data could be identified unless there is an express waiver of the confidentiality requirements under 35 U.S.C. 122 by the Applicant. Sensitive data includes confidential information related to patent applications.


ZARNI MAUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER